



Lincolnville Telephone Company
Family of companies
serving Maine's
Telecommunications needs since 1904

133 Back Meadow Road
Nobleboro, ME 04555-9254
207-563-9911



VIA ECFS

March 7, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554
Attn: Wireline Competition Bureau

Re: WC Docket No. 10-90
Rural Broadband Experiment Expression of Interest – Rate-of-Return Areas
Lincolnville Networks, Inc.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Lincolnville Networks, Inc. (the “Company”), an ILEC, hereby expresses interest in participating in the Commission’s rural broadband experiments to provide robust, scalable high-speed broadband to unserved high-cost areas with additional Connect America funding.¹ The Company is a rate-of-return incumbent local exchange carrier serving rural areas of Maine, and proposes deployment as follows:

Proposed Service Area

The Company proposes to build out broadband to approximately 975 unserved premises in high cost areas within the regulated service territory in Census Tracts 9703 and 440.

Proposed Broadband Service

The Company proposes to initially offer competitively priced voice and broadband services with standard broadband transmission speeds of 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream, scalable to 1 Gigabit downstream and upstream provided over Fiber to the Premises Active Ethernet connections. This network will be utilized to provide broadband, voice, television, home security, hospice, and other services that evolve in the future. The Company believes that these capabilities will be demanded by customers within the next few years.

The Company and its affiliates have significant experience (5 projects successfully completed, 5 projects to be completed in the first half of 2014) with constructing and providing fiber to the

¹ See *Technology Transitions et al.*, GN Docket No. 13-5 et al., Order, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Report and Order, Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Proposal for Ongoing Data Initiative, FCC 14-5 (rel. Jan. 31, 2014).

premises ethernet connections to its most rural customers, with funding support from ConnectME, a state entity dedicated to facilitating availability of broadband to all Mainers, particular those in rural areas.

Funding

The Company estimates construction costs to be a total of \$2.3 million. The Company requests \$2.3 million in funding from Connect America Funds in one-time funding and will fund the remaining capital and ongoing expenses to operate the system. However, the Company is receptive to taking the funding over a period of five to ten years. The Company also intends to apply for a grant from ConnectME to help fund portions of this project. Should any portion of this project be successful in obtaining a ConnectME grant, the funding would be shared between the Connect America Fund and ConnectME.

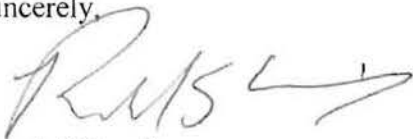
Other Information

The Company expects construction to be completed and service to be offered to all customers within two years from the time construction starts.

The Company appreciates the opportunity to provide this non-binding expression of interest.

Please contact me or Jim Sanborn (207-563-9910, jims@lintelco.net) of our Company with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Manning', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Randal Manning
Vice President – Operations
Lincolntown Networks, Inc.
207-563-9911
randalm@lintelco.net